

GENERAL ORDERS |
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HEADQUARTERS
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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I. MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 203, AR 672-5-1, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following unit of the Armed Forces of the United States for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated:

THE DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY
SOUTHEAST ASIA

MAINLAND REGION AND ASSIGNED DETACHMENTS:

DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY
SOUTHEAST ASIA

MAINLAND REGION, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (1 JUNE
1970 THROUGH 31 MAY 1971)

DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY
SOUTHEAST ASIA MAINLAND REGION, THAILAND (1 JUNE
1970 THROUGH 31 MAY 1971)

The citation reads as follows:

The Defense Communications Agency Southeast Asia Mainland Region and assigned detachments distinguished themselves in support of military operations against a hostile armed force in the Republic of Vietnam from 1 June 1970 through 31 May 1971. The members of this joint service agency demonstrated extraordinary diligence and initiative, and consummate skill in providing operational direction and management control over the most complex system of communications ever assembled in support of combat operations. With the agency working in coordination and cooperation with Army, Navy, and Air Force operating and maintaining agencies, over 5000 circuits making up the long-haul communications capability in the Southeast Asia Mainland Region have been upgraded and tailored to provide COMUSMACV, COMUS MACTHAI, and other commanders and staffs with highly reliable, near-commercial-quality communications service. The Agency consistently provided key commanders and staffs with data and status on system performance and assumed a commanding role in the early detection and correction of situations which could affect system performance. Throughout this period, the Southeast Asia Mainland Region has provided outstanding management through engineering, planning, implementing, analyzing, and directing of the vast network of high quality, multi-channel voice, teletypewriter, and data communications to free world allied forces and United States Government agencies. Operating under conditions of adverse environment and subjected to hostile action, members of this Agency persevered selflessly to meet quality criteria and long-haul reliability in support of troop redeployments, combat missions, and critical command and control objectives. The outstanding proficiency and devotion to

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duty displayed by personnel of the Defense Communications Agency Southeast Asia Mainland Region are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military services and reflect great credit on them and the Armed Forces of the United States.

II. MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION. 1. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 203, AR 672-5-1, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following unit of the United States Army for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated:

THE UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL CENTER, RYUKYU ISLANDS

The citation reads as follows:

The United States Army Medical Center, Ryukyu Islands, distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious service in support of military operations in Southeast Asia during the period 1 November 1968 to 30 April 1971. During this period the United States Army Medical Center fulfilled its mission as an integral link in the medical-care chain and as the primary medical supply and maintenance support activity for the United States and Allied Forces in Southeast Asia. Through a selfless devotion to duty, the professional and administrative elements of the United States Army Medical Center welded their professional efforts together in a cohesive, directed effort to accomplish the mission of providing the best medical care to patients injured or infected eight to ten thousand miles from the continental United States. Extending 30.8 percent of its military in-patient care effort in support of Republic of Vietnam patients, the United States Army Medical Center distinguished itself by the comprehensive, timely, and compassionate care which it provided. Indeed, the sensitive medical care and the responsive supply procedures offered by the United States Army Medical Center are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit on the United States Army, Ryukyu Islands; the United States Army, Pacific; and the Department of the Army.

2. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 203, AR 672-5-1, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following unit of the United States Army for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated:

THE 83D RADIO RESEARCH SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT UNITED STATES ARMY

The citation reads as follows:

The 83d Radio Research Special Operations Unit distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services in support of United States objectives in southeast Asia during the period June 1969 to October 1970. Throughout this period, the members of the unit consistently demonstrated outstanding professional ability and dedication in providing supported commands with timely and accurate information on which to base their intelligence estimates. In numerous instances, the operational achievements of the Radio Research Special Operations Unit were the object of laudatory comments from such supported commands as Military Assistance Command, Vietnam and the Seventh Air Force/Thirteenth Air Force. Operat-

ing as a well-trained team, the unit constantly revised and adapted its mission to meet the changing requirements of the supported commands. From their operational site in Bangkok, the men of the 83d Radio Research Special Operations Unit worked long and arduous hours beyond those normally expected in order to insure a 24-hour-a-day flow of information to vitally interested commanders who were often conducting combat operations against hostile forces in southeast Asia. Through its initiative, resourcefulness, ability to adapt the mission to support rapidly changing requirements of the tactical commanders, and readiness to take any action necessary to increase its support capabilities the 83d Radio Research Special Operations Unit contributed significantly to the success of counterinsurgency efforts in southeast Asia. The outstanding professional skill, devotion to duty and esprit de corps displayed by the members of the unit are in the finest traditions of the military service and reflect the utmost credit on them, their unit and the United States Army.

3. By direction of the Secretary of the Army, under the provisions of paragraph 203, AR 672-5-1, the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following unit of the United States Army for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated:

**587TH MEDICAL DETACHMENT
UNITED STATES ARMY**

The citation reads as follows:

The 587th Medical Detachment, United States Army Medical Command, Japan, distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious service in support of patient care for patients aeromedically evacuated from the Republic of Vietnam to United States Forces hospitals in Japan from the period 1 June 1968 to 31 December 1970. The detachment had the unique mission of providing helicopter ambulance service to six hospitals because of the impractical use of ground transportation due to narrow roads; congested traffic conditions; and long, arduous rides. With at first six, and later nine, UH-1D helicopters authorized for the detachment, the unit met the demanding requirements in an outstanding manner. The limited number of aircraft which required extensive maintenance did not preclude the unit from establishing the incredibly high record of 7,406 patient movements while flying 544 hours in one month. During peak periods, it was not uncommon for unit pilots and crewmen to fly and work 45 days without relief. Unit maintenance crews worked throughout the night and on weekends to insure that their helicopters were mission-ready. Especially noteworthy was the unit's resourcefulness, enthusiasm, and technical skill, which resulted in an average of 80-percent aircraft availability, which is 5 percent higher than the level set by Department of the Army, although the unit's aircraft were flown much above the Department of the Army Flying Hour Program. The detachment flew a grand total of 11,017 hours, while moving 128,420 patients and 38,042 pounds of urgently needed whole blood and medical supplies without a major accident. The detachment also had the additional mission of providing Search and Rescue for the Central Honshu-Kanto Plains area and prevented loss of life on several occasions. The professional ability and devotion to duty of its members, coupled with the exceptional accomplishments of the 587th Medical Detachment, reflect the utmost credit on the unit, the United States Army Medical Department, and the United States Army.

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III. PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY). Section IV, Department of the Army General Orders Number 42, 1971, further amending Department of the Army General Orders Number 23, 1969, pertaining to award of the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) to the 1st Infantry Division, Army of the Republic of Vietnam and attached units to add: "Advisory Team 1, United States Military Assistance Command Vietnam", is amended to read: "Advisory Team 1 (Advisors to Army of the Republic of Vietnam Ranger units cited), United States Military Assistance Command Vietnam".

IV. PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION (ARMY). So much of paragraph 4, section I, Department of the Army General Orders Number 45, 1969, pertaining to award of the Presidential Unit Citation to the 5th Special Forces, United States Army and its assigned and attached units is amended to delete: "21st Medical Holding Detachment (22 Apr 67—31 Jan 68)" and to add: "21st Military History Detachment (22 Apr 67—31 Jan 68)".

V. MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION. So much of Department of the Army General Orders Number 41, 1971, as reads: "the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following units of the United States Army for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated", is amended to read "the Meritorious Unit Commendation is awarded to the following units of the Armed Forces of the United States for exceptionally meritorious achievement in the performance of outstanding service during the period indicated."

By Order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:

VERNE L. BOWERS,
Major General, United States Army,
The Adjutant General.

W. C. WESTMORELAND,
General, United States Army,
Chief of Staff.

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